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Extract from the minutes of the thirteenth annual meeting of the National Board of Trade, held in Washington, D. C., January 23–25, 1900.

NATIONAL BOARD OF TRADE,
SECRETARY'S OFFICE, THE BOURSE, ROOM 248,
Philadelphia, February 1, 1900.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

1. Whereas, There is no subject of more importance to the individual citizen or having a more direct influence upon trade and commerce than the health of the people; and

Whereas, There are many causes which directly affect the general health, such as the pollution of waterways, quarantine regulations, etc., which should properly come under national supervision; therefore,

Be it resolved, That the National Board of Trade reaffirms its declaration in favor of a national quarantine law, and to that end recommends legislation further increasing the gratifying efficiency of the Marine-Hospital Service.

Resolved, That Congress be urgently requested to enact speedy and efficient legislation to protect the sanitary conditions of our people by preventing the pollution of the rivers and other waterways of our country.

2. Whereas, The prevalence of the bubonic plague in neighboring countries is a constant menace to the health of this land; therefore,

Be it resolved, That the National Board of Trade urges upon Congress the necessity of providing at once such punishment for the infraction of quarantine laws as shall be necessary to give them full effect and make them efficient to meet threatened danger, and to that end heartily approves and recommends for immediate passage the Emergency Quarantine Bill prepared by the Treasury Department.

3. Whereas, The creation of smoke and fumes along the waterways controlled by the Federal Government has in different parts of the country endangered the interests and seriously affected the health of those engaged in navigating the rivers and waters controlled by the United States; therefore,

Be it resolved, That the National Board of Trade petitions the proper authorities to adopt such measures and favor such legislation as will abate the nuisance and dangers created by fumes and vision-obstructing smokes along national waters under national jurisdiction.

The foregoing preamble and resolutions were adopted.

True copy.

W. R. TUCKER,
Secretary.

Disinfection of certain articles from plague-infected places.

PORT TOWNSEND QUARANTINE,
Port Townsend, Wash., February 7, 1900.

SIR: Referring to Bureau letter (G) of the 31st ultimo, relative to the disinfection of certain articles of Chinese merchandise from plague-infected ports packed in soil, I have the honor to inclose copies of letters I have addressed to the various Oriental steamship companies, having lines running to this port, and also one to the collector of customs.

Respectfully,

M. H. FOSTER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

PORT TOWNSEND QUARANTINE,
Port Townsend, Wash., February 7, 1900.

To steamship companies and others:

An order having been issued by the Surgeon-General of the Marine-Hospital Service that hereafter all eggs, yams, sugar cane and similar articles packed in soil, coming from plague-infected ports, should be disinfected at this end unless viséed by an officer of the Service at the port of departure, I have to request that you notify your agents in foreign ports of the order and ask that they have articles of this nature placed in the hold in one compartment, and in such a position that they will be readily accessible on arrival here. This arrangement has been made with companies running lines to other ports on this coast, and will expedite the quarantine inspection here, which is our constant effort as well as your own.

Any further information we can supply on this matter will be cheerfully given.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

PORT TOWNSEND QUARANTINE,
Port Townsend, Wash., February 7, 1900.

Collector of Customs, Port Townsend, Wash.:

SIR: An order has been issued by the Surgeon-General of the Marine-Hospital Service that hereafter all eggs, yams, sugar cane, and similar articles packed in soil, coming from plague-infected ports, should be disinfected at this end unless viséed by an officer of the Service at the port of departure. I understand that sometimes articles of the above description are brought into this country from Vancouver by rail and the steamship *North Pacific*. I have, therefore, to request that you instruct your inspectors at Seattle and here to observe that all articles packed in soil from Hongkong and Kobe are viséed by an officer of the Service at the port of departure or else to hold them pending your instructions. Upon your notifying me of the detention of such articles, I will provide for their disinfection.

Smallpox in Jefferson County, Ala.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., *February 13, 1900.*

SIR: Inclosed I hand you smallpox report for year 1899, for Jefferson County, Ala., which also includes report of cases on hand in county hospital, February 5, 1900. The transmission of this report has been delayed by the misplacement or loss of a report on typhoid fever, diphtheria, and other infectious diseases, in Birmingham, Ala., for the year 1899, which had been made out for your Department. I have no blank on which to duplicate it, but will take pleasure in making a new one if you send the required blank.

Respectfully,

JNO. W. BARCLAY,
County Health Officer.

[Inclosure.]

Number of cases of smallpox occurring in Jefferson County, Ala., during the year 1899.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., *February 5, 1900.*

	Cases.	Males.	Females.	Deaths.
White	19	15	4	*a* 3
Colored	131	114	17	*a* 3
Total	150	129	21	6

a Males.